Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:DLSCHIELE
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, GQ

SUBJECT: INVITATION FOR COMMITTEE OF 24 TO VISIT GUAM

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED A RESPONSE FROM THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM TO OUR LETTER OF MARCH 1. OUR LETTER RECOMMENDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM INVITE THE COMMITTEE OF 24 TO DISPATCH A VISITING MISSION TO GUAM DURING 1978. THE GOVERNOR HAS EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT A VISITING MISSION TO GUAM DURING THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN AND ELECTION PERIOD COULD BE SUBJECT TO MISINTERPRETATION AND HAVE AN UNDUE INFLUENCE IN THE LOCAL ELECTIONS. HE PREFERS THAT A VISIT BE CONSIDERED FOR 1979.

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2. ERIC SVENDSEN, WHO WILL REPLACE DAVID SCHIELE IN IO/UNP, WILL BE IN GUAM ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS FROM MAY 7-10 AND WILL SEEK AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE GOVERNOR. SVENDSEN WILL SAY THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE GOVERNOR'S POINT OF VIEW, BUT THAT WE HOPE THE GOVERNOR WILL RECONSIDER AND INVITE A VISITING MISSION THIS YEAR. SVENDSEN WILL EXPLAIN THAT WE ARE

PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HAVING THE COMMITTEE VIEW THE VOTING ON THE CONSTITUTION IN THE HOPE THAT WE CAN

GET A VISITING MISSION REPORT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE CONSTITUTION WAS FREELY ADOPTED IN FAIR ELECTION, AND THAT IT IN FACT REPRESENTS THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF GUAM. SVENDSEN WILL EXPLAIN THAT WE ATTACH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THIS SINCE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL MAKE A DETERMINATION THAT GUAM HAS ACHIEVED FULL SELF-GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE CHARTER AND THAT THE FURTHER TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER ARTICLE 73 IS INAPPROPRIATE. SHOULD SUCH A DETERMINATION BE MADE IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL THAT WE HAVE A FAVORABLE VISITING MISSION REPORT ON RECORD IF WE ARE TO HAVE A CHANCE OF AVOIDING GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION DECLARING THAT GUAM CONTINUES TO BE SUBJECT TO THE ARTICLE 73 REPORTING REQUIREMENT AND THAT THE UNITED STATES IS IN VIOLATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UN CHARTER. IF THE GOVERNOR REAFFIRMS HIS VIEW THAT A VISITING MISSION SHOULD BE PUT OFF UNTIL 1979, SVENDSEN WILL INFORM HIM THAT WE WILL DEFER TO HIS VIEW, AND THAT, UNLESS HE OBJECTS, WE INTEND TO TRANSMIT THE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON THE SUBJECT TO THE COMMITTEE OF 24 FOR ITS INFORMATION.

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